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1 8. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the evaluating is performed
2 in a first communication device operating as a modem in accordance with ITU-T
3 Recommendation V.90.

1 9. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising enabling one or
2 more performance enhancing or deficiency compensation features according to the
3 comparing of the evaluated one or more characteristics.

1 10. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the local communication
2 device performs the evaluating by measuring a duration of one or more training
3 signals, duration of the one or more training signals being the one or more
4 characteristics of the one or more signals sent by the remote communication device.

1 11. The method as recited in claim 10 wherein the training signals are
2 modem training signals TRN_{1d} and TRN_{2d} and the duration of the modem training
3 signals are measured and wherein during the comparing, the measured duration is
4 compared to stored duration values to identify the remote communication device.

1 12. The method as recited in claim 10 wherein the duration is measured in
2 terms of a number of symbols transmitted.

1 13. An apparatus comprising:
2 means for evaluating one or more characteristics associated with one or more
3 signals sent by a remote communication device coupled to the
4 apparatus; and
5 means for comparing the evaluated one or more characteristics to known
6 characteristics to determine an identity of the remote communication
7 device.

1 14. The apparatus as recited in claim 13 further comprising means for
2 enabling one or more performance enhancing features according to the identification
3 of the remote communication device.

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1 29. The apparatus as recited in claim 24 wherein the device is a modem.

1 30. The apparatus as recited in claim 24 wherein the signals are training
2 signals and the parameters are duration of the training signals.

1 31. The apparatus as recited in claim 31 wherein the training signals are
2 modem training signals TRN_{1d} and TRN_{2d} , duration of the modem training signals
3 being measured and compared to known durations to determine an identity of the
4 remote communications device.

1 32. The apparatus as recited in claim 24 wherein the apparatus is disposed
2 on a single integrated circuit.

1 33. The apparatus as recited in claim 24 wherein the apparatus includes a
2 general purpose processor.